Alabama

Parks and Play Grounds- 1934

NEGROES MAKING USE OF CITY PLAYGROUNDS

Attendance Larker Than In Several Years, Board Reports

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The average attendance on the playgrounds for the week was 1,754, while the average at the community centers was 715.

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Birmingham, Ala., News
August 5, 1934

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BY ROBERT DURR

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These elimination contests are held because the activities as carried on the playgrounds are too varied to be carried on in the one big play day at Legion Field Aug. 18 at which time the best from each division will compete for city-wide supremacy.

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High Light Activities

Eighth Avenue Community center—Community singing, Monday; kindergarten and handicraft, daily; Lula DeAmpert and Allene Jackson directors.

Risen Community Center—Civic mass meeting, Sunday 3 p.m., Robert Durr, speaker.

Patterson—Special exercises in sand modeling all week.

East Thomas—3 p.m. daily, Theatre.

Pratt Center—Cooking school and handicraft, Thursdays.

Vineville—Community ice cream party and group games, Monday.

Council Center—Lawn quilting party, Wednesdays, Fridays; public speaking and community singing, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays.

Beulah Moore—Watermelon party and games Monday afternoon. North Birmingham elimination to select contestants for play day. The same sort of activities in preparation for the play day is in motion on all other playgrounds.

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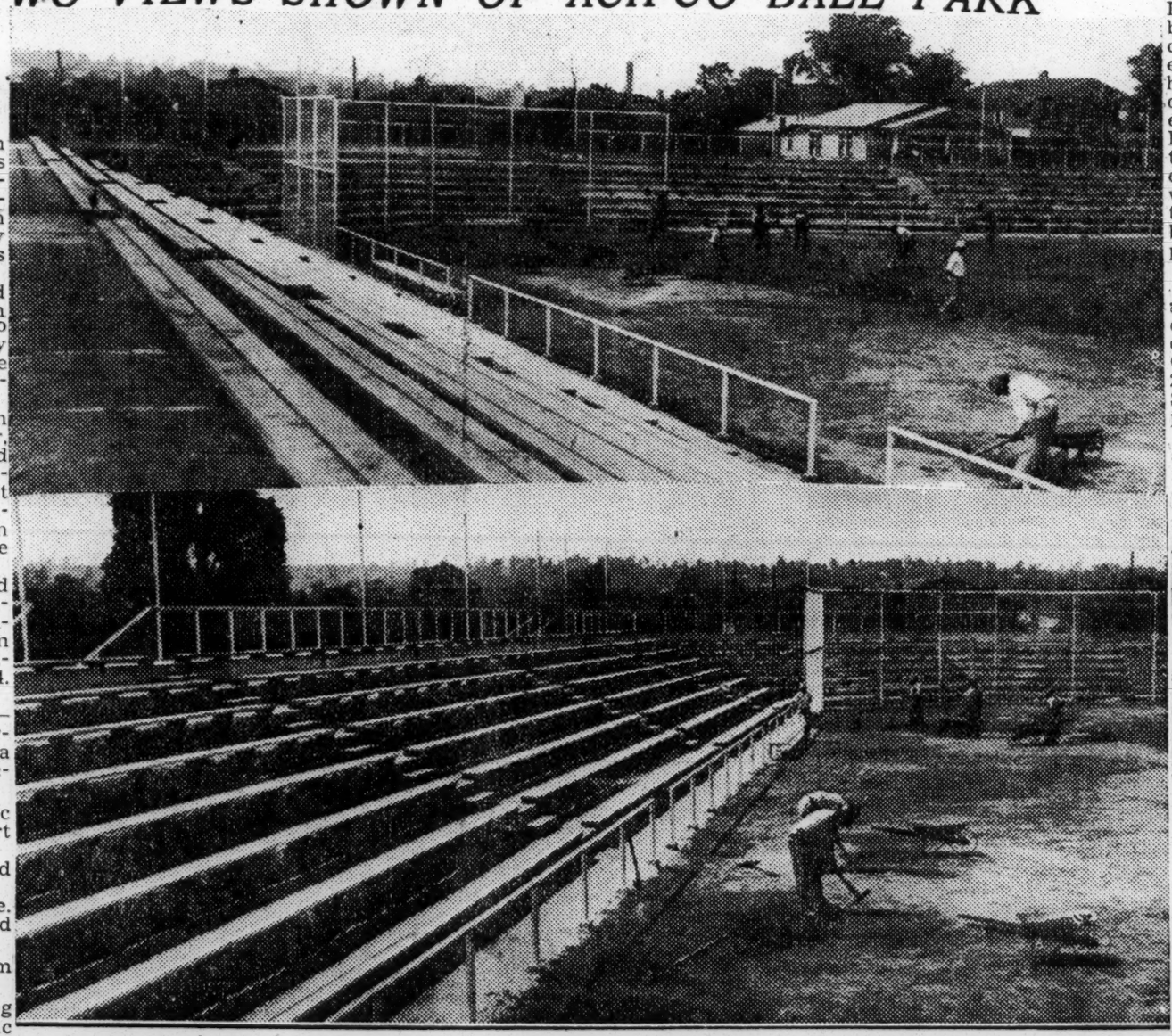
Birmingham, Ala., News
Aug. 5, 1934

TWO VIEWS SHOWN OF ACIPCO BALL PARK



Above are two views of the Acipco Negro ball park, the first step in a planned program of industrial recreational facilities to provide for utilization of idle time by employes of Birmingham's major plants. The top picture is a general view of the development. Below is shown the west stands of the park which is to be dedicated on Aug. 25 with an appropriate program featuring an address by Hugh Morrow, president of the Sloss-Sheffield Steel & Iron Company.

Birmingham Industries Plan Playground Facilities For Negro Folk

Birmingham industry has completed the first step in a district wide program of social and race relations planning that has brought into being a cooperative association designed to solve some of the major problems arising jointly out of the so-called machine age and President Roosevelt's New Deal.

Conceived and organized by Birmingham captains of industry, the Industrial Recreation Association has become a reality after months of careful study, and has for its general purposes a broad and comprehensive program embracing problems of mutual understanding between employer and employe and, in the language of its papers of incorporation, "to sponsor, promote and encourage organizations and groups which have for their general purpose the constructive use of leisure time by industrial employes and their dependents."

Athletic Field Built

The first tangible evidence of such an organization today stands virtually completed on Sloss-Sheffield property at the American Cast Iron Pipe Company, and will be dedicated Aug. 25 by Hugh Morrow, president of the Sloss Company, with an appropriate program.

From this nucleus, a baseball park and athletic field for Negroes, there is expected to arise throughout the district a carefully selected list of projects comprising community centers, football fields, swimming pools and other facilities where industrial employes may profitably spend their surplus time in activities designed to promote their physical well being, broaden their perspective and cement a spirit of fellowship and good will.

The Industrial Recreation Association is the answer Birmingham industry has given to the problem of idle time and what to do with it. The association is believed to be the first of its kind in America, and will proceed with extreme caution through a contemplated program which it is hoped will make of the Birmingham district a pattern for industry throughout the nation.

But the scope of the association's program is even more embracing than that. The rehabilitation of Negro settlements, for instance, to provide street, alley and drainage facilities as a means of protecting public health, is a major objective and indicative of what it is hoped will be accomplished throughout the district.

The Industrial Recreation Association, as set forth in its papers of incorporation, is an educational or benevolent society. Herbert Stockham, Wade Oldham and W. D. Moore have been designated as trustees with

[illegible] Sec. 13, provision for not less than three nor more than 25 such trustees, to be composed of Birmingham industrial-ists from among whom a chairman, secretary and treasurer are chosen.

Sec. 11 of the papers of incorporation says:

"Membership in this corporation shall comprise all of those persons who may become beneficiaries of its benevolent work and purposes, and all these persons who may contribute funds to the corporation with which to help defray the expenses of developing its program."

"As indicative of the purposes and [illegible] ployes of the industries of Birmingham and Jefferson County. As improved will be leased to the city of such planning funds park and recreation board for a certain individuals who are and playground and athletic bowl for colored people on property belonging to the Sloss-Sheffield Steel & Iron Company in North Birmingham, and [illegible] time of employes have been made where-by such property so developed and leased and are now being

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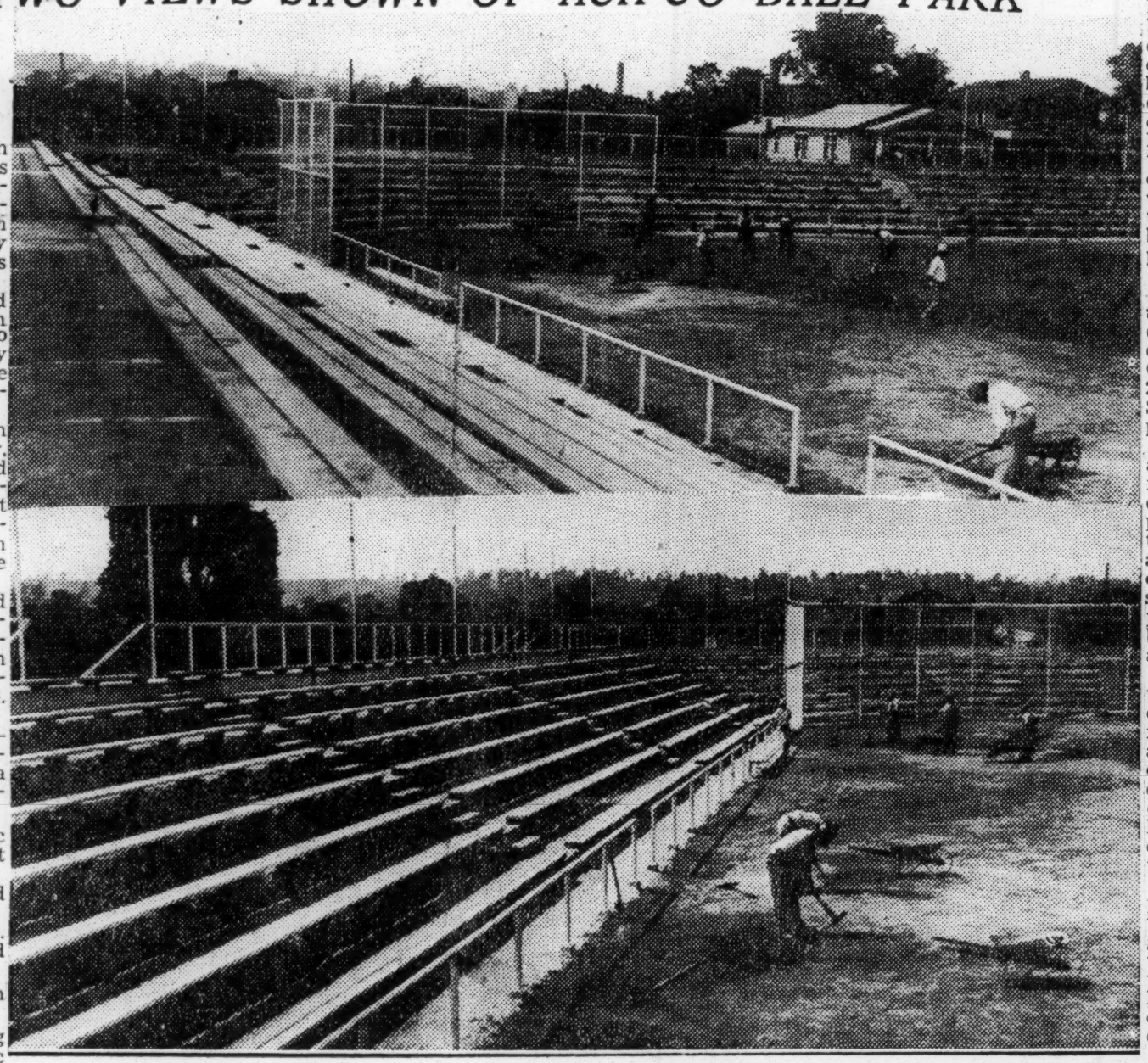

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tain period of time.

Garden Work Encouraged

"As another instance of such planning, industrial employes have been encouraged to make their own flower and vegetable gardens, under the stimulation of an offer to have the necessary plowing done without charge to the gardener, and under the encouragement of an offer of certain prizes for the best developed gardens during the season.

"Without specifying other instances these may serve to indicate the general lines of planning and work which this corporation shall undertake by virtue of this charter. The property and income of the corporation shall be used solely in the prosecution of such planning and work. The details of the work and the specific plans of operation are not intended to be outlined herein or limited in scope by the above recital of instances. . . ."

Identical facilities for white and Negro employes are contemplated, and facilities this provided, while intended primarily for the use of industrial employes, will not be limited to their exclusive use, but be available to schools, open air singings and approved community programs.

The Negro baseball diamond and athletic field thus becomes the first cog in a program which has been given the enthusiastic support of several representative Birmingham industrialists, and which is expected to mark a new era in industrial planning and development to fit the changing economic and social picture, particularly as it affects industry in the South.

The Acipo ball park, constructed entirely by relief labor under plans and specifications drawn up by City Engineer Webb, was started on April 16 with an approximate of $21,368.72, of which $17,077.48 was for labor; $2,139.47 in local appropriations for materials, and $324.50 in local appropriations for equipment. A daily average of 108 men have been employed on the project with a total of 56,276 man hours worked.

Aside from the dedicatory address by Mr. Morrow, the opening program at the park will include three Negro ball games and music by the Colored Industrial High School Band, Mr. Moore will be master of ceremonies, and city officials, officials of the park and recreation board, the relief agencies and the Industrial Recreation Association will be in attendance.

Ozark, Ala., Star
September 12, 1934

City Establishes Law Force In Negro Section of City

In recent months several serious cutting scrapes have occurred in the negro section of the city, resulting in one death and serious injury to several negroes. This condition influenced the city administration to establish a police force of two negro policemen to maintain order in this section of the city.

Two negro citizens, Oscar Crittenden and Lon Ashmore have been deputized by the city to force observance of all laws among the negroes. They have been acting in this capacity for the past three weeks and a decided difference is noted in the conduct of troublesome colored citizens.

The city aministration had many requests from law abiding and respected colored citizens to make this move. All public gatherings held by the colored people were molested by a few negroes who wanted to make trouble. Since the establishment of a negro force to maintain order this troublesome element has been eliminated almost entirely.

The negro officers have no jurisdiction whatsoever outside their own race.

The city is to be congratulated upon the establishment of officers among the negroes. It will reflect better behavior in the colored quarters and prevent disorders that have frequently occurred in the past.

Birmingham, Ala., News
August 26, 1934

SLOSS FIELD BALL PARK IS DEDICATED

Hugh Morrow Gives Speech At Opening Of First Of Several Projects

With an address by Hugh Morrow, president of the Sloss-Sheffield Steel & Iron Company, Sloss Field Ball Park at Nineteenth Street and Twenty-Fourth Avenue, North, was formally dedicated Saturday. The field is the first of several similar projects planned for various sections of the industrial district by the Industrial Recreation Association, which was chartered Aug. 9.

W. D. Moore, president of the American Cast Iron Pipe Company, was in charge of the dedicatory exercises. There were three baseball games between Negro teams picked to represent six of the major plants. A number of industrial leaders and others participated in the exercises.

Sloss Field Ball Park was constructed for the Negro workmen in industrial plants in the Northern section of the city and will be under the joint management of the Park Board and the Industrial Recreation Association. Other projects are planned by the association both for white and Negro workers and their families. These plans include ball parks and swimming pools.

Bleachers at Sloss Field have a seating capacity of 2,500. The park was constructed with material largely donated by Birmingham industries and by relief labor. Music for the dedicatory cememonies was furnished by the Industrial High School Band.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
AGE HERALD

AUG 11 19[illegible]

Vision

A most far-sighted and pregnant enterprise has been launched by Birmingham industrialists working through a recreation association set up for the purpose of shaping the constructive use of leisure time by Negro employes. Already an excellent beginning has been made with the erection of a baseball park and athletic field on Sloss-Sheffield property near the plant of the American Cast Iron Company. Similar provision for wholesome play will be made in other locations.

The organization which has this project in hand sees its problem steadily and as a whole. Therefore it is also interested in the improvement of Negro housing and in making Negro settlements as attractive as possible. This is evidence of a creative social vision. Much of the benefit of recreational facilities is nullified by living conditions hostile to health and wholesome living.

Industrialists are undertaking this service, not so much because they are philanthropists, as because they have grown aware of their obligations as employers and because they can no longer escape the pressure of realities. If their workers are to be dependable and competent, they must be made to feel that they have at their command all the pleasures of a civilized community and the fullest opportunity to enjoy themselves as individuals and groups.

It is something to rejoice over that this movement, the first to recognize responsibilities imposed by the new leisure, has taken form in Birmingham, at which radicals have been pointing as the center of baronial employers and servile workers. That accusation was never just. It now falls of its own weight, as the conscience, understanding and self-interest of industrialists unite to promote a great program, dedicated to the happiness and upbuilding of employes hitherto left entirely too much to their own devices.

Much of the credit for this most hopeful departure belongs to W. D. Moore, president of the American Cast Iron Company. It is to be hoped that a large body of thoughtful persons will visit the baseball park when it is formally opened two weeks hence, not merely to honor Mr. Moore but to see with their own eyes the value of the idea which is there bodied forth.

Parks and Play Grounds-1934

D.C.

MODERN 18-HOLE GOLF COURSE FOR D.C. NEGROES

Tribune

Public Grounds Official Promises Delegation Early Start on Structure

6-28-34

A delegation of colored golfers obtained an audience with Captain Guy Finnan, superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, in his office at the Navy Department Building, early this week and presented a formal request for adequate golfing facilities on behalf of local golf players.

The committee, composed of Dr. Albert R. Harris, dentist, Dr George W. Adams, physician; James N. Saunders, Dunbar teacher, and John A. Lankford, architect, represented the Royal Golf Club of this city. Dean Dwight O. W. Holmes, of Howard University, was also supposed to accompany the group, but was unable to do so because of business at the university.

Captain Finnan, after hearing the plea of the delegation, informed them that he already had under advisement plans for an 18-hole course in Anacostia Park. The plans, he stated, call for an up-to-date club house with shower provisions.

The buildings and grounds head declared that in all probability work would be begun under the direction of the Public Works Administration in the very near future.

New Banneker Swimming Pool Called "Last Word"

By FLORENCE M. COLLINS

WASHINGTON— The swimming pool at Banneker Center, the first completed project at the recreational center, is the last word in pools.

Located at Euclid Street and Georgia Avenue, northwest, it is one of the government's local CWA projects.

Swimmers and bathers can enjoy night recreation in the pool under the brilliant lighting effects.

The filtration plant in charge of Samuel L. Bullock, medical student at Howard is so up-to-date that the water is "fit to drink." It is tested by inspectors from the government health department twice a week, and Bullock, himself, tests it every two hours.

The pool holds a half million gallons of water, which is filtrated through five sand and gravel tanks, cleansed and purified through a tank of sodium dioxide and one of alum. Its last process, as it passes back into the pools, is its mixing with chlorine.

Two Motors Used

Two motors are used, working twelve hours each individually for pumping the water out of the pool, through the various pipes and tanks, and back into the pool again, sparkling and pure—but not sweet—for there is much coughing and sneezing by those who are not accustomed to its taste.

Bullock is permitted by the Board of Health to have only 200 bacteria in a cubic centimeter of water, if that means anything to you. He has not had the maximum amount thus far, he said.

Bald-headed men and towsled headed youngsters enjoy the bright blue water. The kiddies are allowed to swim free each morning before ten o'clock.

There has not been much trouble with girls and women swimmers, one guard said. But there is much life-saving of "high" men and the smaller children. Especially on holidays and week-ends are the guards kept busy yanking "drunks" out of the deep waters, despite repeal.

Check Room Modern

The checkroom is as perfectly systematized as a checkroom can be. When the swimmer enters, he is given a wire basket in which to put his clothes. The basket is numbered.

He returns this basket filled with his clothes to the checker, who gives him a tag containing the same number as that of the basket. This tag is on a rubber band, and is worn by the swimmer around his arm, his leg, or sometimes, to be fancy around his neck—only it is a little tight for most necks.

There is no way of escaping that cold shower before entering the pool; for the only entrance to it is through a series of showers, all cold. You must "walk that cold plank" to your recreation. You can, however, return to the dressing room through another gateway that does not lead through the showers.

Once having paid your fee, you may remain in the pool for hours, rest up a while, by your smokes from a little confectionery concession right there at the pool, buy cakes, candy and lollypops, and go back to swim.

Six Guards on Duty

Six guards are on duty for your safety, all of whom have not only passed the junior and senior life saving Red Cross tests, but also the examiners' test, and have reached the highest rating that a swimmer can have. They are able themselves to conduct life-saving tests.

John Francis Harris, a graduate of Howard University, who for seven years has been employed in the District recreational department, is manager of the pool. He received his degree in physical education in 1930.

Under him are the following employees:

Life-guards—Joseph Drew, head, Wilbur Wallace, Henry Robinson, Adam Robinson, Harold Terry, and Ralph Jackson. They are employed full time, in fact, more than full time, for they work a 56-hour week.

The cashier is Mrs. Lillian Starks. Miss Carlyn Wilson is the head woman checker, and her assistant checkers are Miss Imogene Holland, Miss Daisy Eglin, and Miss Nellie Morton. George Templeton is the head male checker; and his assistants are Milton Larry and Harry Lee.

Thomas McGowan and Glascoe Mack are caretakers; Samuel Bullock is the engineer.

Parks and Play Grounds-1934

Florida

Daytona Beach, Fla. News
February 9, 1934

PARK PLANNED FOR NEGROES

CWA Project Awaits Site Selection

The CWA is ready to begin work on a negro recreation park, to be centrally located on the west side of the city, if land can be obtained Rev. C. Arthur Linclon announced today.

Only acquisition of a suitable site is holding up the start on the park, for which petitions were received some time ago. The project would include a wooden grandstand, probably encircling the recreation field.

Rev. Lincoln also said that plans were being made to go through with the Casino Burgoyne project, which calls for an addition to the present building that would result in a modern auditorium with a seating capacity of 1,100. This project has been outstanding for several months. Reports that the building would have sufficien seats to take care of 4,000 persons are erroneous, Dr. Lincoln said. The Casino Burgoyne plans have not been elaborated beyond original plans reported sometime ago for well appointed auditorium to be utilized for general recreation.

Plans have been approved here and J. R. Brennan, CWA work director, will seek approval at Tallahassee at once. The auditorium will stand on virtually the same site as that now occupied by Casino Burgoyne, an addition to spread eastward over the basin between City island and the mainland.

H. M. Griffin, architect, is to begin work on more complete plans at once to determine cost of the project, and also is to start at once on plans for the negro park.

Albany-Decatur, Ala. Daily
February 13, 1934

A Florida Negro

In The Dothan Eagle is published the story of Joe S. McLane. It appeals to The Daily as being quite an interesting yarn.

Joe is a former negro citizen of Marianna, Florida. Thirty-five years ago he went to DeFuniak Springs and obtained a position as a hotel waiter. Winning friends, he finally also won a job with a Jacksonville hotel which is owned by a company operating swanky establishments in Florida, Atlantic City and Miami.

His new bosses liked Joe for Joe was the type of employe which made friends for the company's hotels and as the years passed they rewarded him by making him head waiter of all their hotels with a salary of $125 a week and expenses.

Possession of a salary of such proportions did not cause Joe to forget his earlier life in Marianna and now he has dontaed a park site for the negro residents of Marianna.

Something inspiring for all race in that!

Dothan, Ala., Herald
February 15, 1934

Negro Becomes Wealthy And Donates Park To Marianna a His Birthplace

Probably the only negro park existing in northern Florida was donated recently to Marianna, Fla., by a negro Joe McLane, who lived in Marianna thirty-five years ago. Last week Mayor John W. Burton, of that city, received a letter from McLane concerning three lots that he owns in the Brooklyn section of Marianna, which he deeded to the city, naming trustees with the power to appoint their successors to look after the property. It is to be called the "Joe McLane Park."

When 24 years old McLane left his home in Marianna and obtained work as a waiter in a DeFuniak Springs hotel. From there he went to Jacksonville and was employed by a company operating a group of hotels from Atlantic City, New Jersey to Miami, Florida. He made head waiter of all the hotels at a salary of $125 a week and expenses. A large retinue of employees travel with the former Mariannan north and south as the seasons change. He saved his money and invested it in land in Jacksonville and other east coast cities.

McLane's letter to the mayor also stated: "It was my fondest hope to deliver this deed as a Christmas present, failing in that it was delivered to Mr. Pierce (city attorney) for a New Year's gift from one of the colored son's of Marianna, denoting my love for my birthplace, and I hope it will be accepted." The mayor replied that he was sure that the "city council would gladly avail themselves of your kind offer."

MIAMI, FLA.
NEWS

MAY 4 - 1934

CITY TO ACQUIRE NEGRO PARK SITES

Acquisition of two negro park sites of five acres each, one at Coconut Grove and the other near the Booker T. Washington school, in exchange for tax certificates with a face value of $50,000, was voted by the city commission late today. The certificates, commissioners stated, are from 3 to 7 years old and have been continuously offered for sale without a purchaser. The board was proceeding with a hearing of the proposed general city zoning ordinance.

St. Augustine, Fla., Record
June 6, 1934

Playground for Colored Wanted

City Manager to Investigate Cost of Filling

After Commissioner Walter B. Fraser and Commissioner T. Rogero Mickler expressed themselves forcefully in the city commission meeting this afternoon with regard to giving colored children of the city a playground, City Manager Eugene Masters was asked to get figures on the cost of filling a portion of the northwest corner of the St. Augustine Country Club, which is marshland. The action was taken following reading of a petition from residents in the vicinity of South and Blanco Streets which protested over the noise made by colored children playing baseball in that neighborhood. Prof. J. B. Williams, colored was present, to ask for playground space for the children. City Manager Masters said that the matter would be given attention, and a report made to the commission. In the meantime, City Attorney E. Noble Calhoun said that in view of the protest made by the petition, if the noise of the children has become a nuisance it should be stopped. All members of the commission were present, and Mayor E. J. Wishard presid-

Parks and Play Grounds-1934

Georgia

Recreation Center Has Grand Opening

Unidentified newspaper, 1-1-34

Residents of Atlanta and surrounding territory most heartily welcomed the opening of Atlanta's only recreation center last Sunday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. when the magnificient recreation center operated by Hanley Employees Jolly Bunch, Inc., a continent of employees of that ever-popular Hanley Undertakng Establishment, was thrown open to the public.

Throngs flocked to the center all during the day to look it over and enjoy the congenial atmosphere, and despite the sudden drop in temperature Sunday night they continued to trek out there and avail themselves of refreshments and an eyeful of something that Atlanta has long needed—a cozy rendezvous and recreation center, where one can go evenings for diversion and days for play and amusement, and good eats at all times. There is also a clean, airy kitchen complete, and a large, spacious dining room in connection with the recreation center, where one may dine and dance their troubles away.

This ever-popular club is to be congratulated upon giving to the gay metropolis of Atlanta something that has long been needed along the line of recreations and appetizing foods. The officers of this club comprise: S. E. Gore, Jr., president; Mrs. L. A. Davison, vice-president; Mrs. C. E. Hanley, corresponding secretary; T. B. Elliott, financial secretary; Mrs. S. W. Creddell, treasurer; George Crumley, business manager, H. L. Hanley, Jr., publicity manager and I. J. Jones, chaplain.

During the evening, several selections were rendered by the Atlanta Negro Music Club and one or two speakers with the president, presented to the public the purpose and aim of the recreation center. The large dining room which holds twenty-five or thirty tables, was tastefully decorated with fall leaves, beautiful ferns and potted plants and each of the thirty tables held individual baskets containing large hothouse dahlias. Real pumpkins graced the large, old-fashioned mantel, and around the huge fireplace, guests were seated, giving that homelike appearance. In all it was truly a beautiful sight, which corresponded so fittingly with the rustic surroundings and natural wooded country. Even outside for several hundred feet around it, the lawns had been cleared and the trees were whitewashed with an old-fashioned well on the terrace, and real water.

The center will be open nights and will cater to private parties, banquets, club dances, picnics and all recreational amusements, and can be engaged by getting in touch with any of the officers of the club. Plans are being laid for a nine-hole golf course and by spring the center hopes to give to Atlanta a well-laid baseball diamond, tennis courts, picnic grounds and the best golf course in town. The slogan of Atlanta is—"Dine and dance at the center." Whenever you want real pit-cooked barbecue, milk-fed fried chicken and nice, hot chitterlings, drive out to Hanley's Recreation Center on Simpson Road. Large signs at each gate point it out to the public.

Parks and Play Grounds - 1934

Georgia.

NEGRO CITIZENS SUBMIT REQUEST FOR COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND HERE

Colored Taxpayers Urge Center as Necessity of Life for Their Children

A delegation of tax-paying Negro citizens submitted to city council last night their plea for $17,000 to obtain a $60,000 CWA community center and two playgrounds for Negro children.

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No Direction

"Our playgrounds are not attractively equipped and our children go into the streets without proper guidance to keep them out of the pitfalls of evil life. They will make you good citizens instead of filling your detention homes if they are given a chance.

"Storm and sanitary sewers, which some of our people will receive under other PWA projects, are something we should have had long ago. . . .

"All through history, we do not know of a case where a white man asked a Negro to do something—right or wrong—and the Negro didn't make an effort to do it. . . . We are asking you to do this to make better men and women of our children."

Mrs. Kinney Favors It

Mrs. W. O. Kinney, former alderwoman, endorsed the petition, and suggested that the city seek the assistance of Bibb county in financing the project as a city-county undertaking.

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H. W. Pittman, chairman of the city finance committee, asked that the project be referred to the playground and finance committees for investigation and study.

"Every member of council, I believe, is in thorough sympathy with your problems," he told the Negro delegation. "I, for one, don't believe you've gotten all you should in the past—I can't say who is to blame. We wish we had enough money to match dollar for dollar the CWA appropriations on all these projects, and I am sure your request will be given serious consideration."

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Parks and Play Grounds - 1934

Georgia.

NEGRO CITIZENS SUBMIT REQUEST FOR COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND HERE

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City Council Appropriates $2,200 For Swmming Pool

Committee of Citizens Addresses Body--Will Be Ready For Use By June First

At its regular meeting Wednesday night, City Council voted an additional appropriation of $2,200 for the completion of the Negro swimming pool and recreation center on property of the city lying along the Ogeechee road. The improvements include erection of bath houses, shower baths and a pavilion. Plans for these improvements have already been made and are in the office of Engineer Goebel.

The original committee which has been laboring for the securing and development of this much-needed opportunity for colored people appeared by invitation before City Council Wednesday night to emphasize and explain its request for early completion of the center showing the imperative need of some recreational outlet for thousands of young people during the summer months, as well as for some avenue of enjoyment for many visitors ad excursionists who annually come to our city. It was also urged that the completion of the center would make for better health and better citizenship among the people, and that many churches, clubs and other bodies would have some more economical means of entertaining their membership groups during the rereation sea

Addressing the Council were Fr. J. Henry Brown, pastor of St. Augustine Episcopal Church, Mrs. George S. Williams, president of the Chatham County Colored Citizens Council and who has worked indefatigably for many months on the project, and Attorney and Mrs. J. G. Lemon. The committee was graciously received by the Mayor and Council and given full and free opportunity to present its case. Members of Council expressed their pleasure at hearing the committee and promised to continue to aid the committee in promoting a strong recreational program for colored people here.

In addition to the above improvements, it was added that playground equipment for smaller children would be provided at an early date and that tennis and basketball courts would also be installed at the south end of the property.

It was made clear that the recreation center would be kept free of all disorder and objectionable enterprises and that it would be available to all of the people of the community.

The city's Park and Tree Commission will be asked to make certain beautification of the surroundings and approaches to the park.

Fully five thousand people witnessed the opening of the colored recreation center and swimming pool on Labor Day and enjoyed the thrills of a score of aquatic games and contests and cheered the colorful exhibition brought by the first annual bathing beauty contest. Two thousand crowded the bank of the big lake or milled about the spacious grounds, while hundreds watched the varied show from Ogeechee road, 39th and Kollock street. There was not the semblance of disorder, although the facilities and equipment of the big center are not yet complete and there are few places for seating the people.

Atlanta, Ga. Georgian
October 19, 1934

FERA TO OPEN WINTER 'REST' PROGRAM

Success of the summer recreation program for Atlanta and Fulton County, sponsored and financed by the Georgia Emergency Relief Administration through its Fulton County office, led to announcement today of a winter program which, in the opinion of Miss Ada M. Barker, Fulton County administrator, "will be comparable in scope and effectiveness to any of the better municipal programs now in operation in this country."

The program will be open to all persons in the county over 16 years of age who are not regularly enrolled in Atlanta or Fulton County schools and contemplates the free use of the facilities of the Atlanta school system which have been tendered the administration by the Board of Education.

Miss Gay B. Shepperson, emergency relief administrator for Georgia, said she was "pleased with the splendid co-operation which the relief administration has received from the Board of Education," and hoped the plan which has been worked out in Fulton County will be adopted in other communities in the state.

In making the announcement, Miss Barker said that most of the supervisory personnel has been selected and that she expects the program to open early next week.

Under Hal Hentz, chairman of the central advisory committee on recreation of the Fulton County relief administration, the program will be directed by August Fischer director of the summer program.

Essentially for adults, the present schedule calls for the use of several of the school buildings in the Atlanta system three or four nights each week.

Supervisory personnel for each recreational center will include a director, a woman assistant, who will direct the women's program of athletics and social recreation a music director, dramatics director, five basketball and volley ball officials, two women basketball and volley ball officials, and such other helpers as may be needed as the program develops. Janitor service will be provided for each building.

There will be a council in each district in which a recreation center is established. This will be composed of principals of the schools in the vicinity of each center, the recreation chairman of each Parent-Teacher Association, together with representatives of civic clubs, city officials and other citizens.

It will be the duty of this committee to interpret the community's needs, provide a stimulation for youth to use the centers, act as judges for competitions and aid in securing awards.

The program at the start will include athletics, social recreation, music and dramatics, and countless special features for persons of advancing years who, through advanced age or physical handicap, cannot participate in the scheduled program of the recreation centers.

"The athletic program will give particular attention and emphasis to the needs of those between the ages of 16 and 21 years," Mr. Fischer said in detailing his plans.

"There are evidently thousands of boys and girls in Atlanta and Fulton County between these ages who for some reason have had to discontinue their education and are seeking opportunity for self-expression. Games for these will include basketball, volley ball and the run of physical exercises which the equipment of the respective gymnasiums are designed to give."

The schedule for women and girls includes the formation of clubs which will meet weekly with varied programs, special women's gymnasium classes, girls' basketball, sewing groups, tap dancing and handicraft clubs.

Arrangements have been made for the use of Hoke Smith Junior High. Bass Junior High, O'Keefe Junior High, Joe Brown Junior High, Murphy Junior High, John B. Gordon, Maddox Junior High, Kingsbury, Boys' High and Tech High. Designated centers in Fulton County were not announced.

Recreation centers for negroes, Mr. Fischer said, will be announced early next week. He said that several of the negro school buildings will be used.

Pointing out that Mr. Fischer successfully directed the Fulton County program last summer, Hal Hentz, chairman of the advisory committee of citizens, said:

"The program which Mr. Fischer has planned is a perfectly splendid one and deserves the co-operation of every citizen of the county. Every detail of it is constructive, and I am proud of Atlanta's achievement this last summer."

Dr. Willis Sutton, superintendent of the Atlanta public school system, when questioned on the subject, said:

"One of the great problems of this country is the intelligent and constructive use of leisure time. I conceive this program of the relief to be one of the best avenues so far proposed by the federal agency for the upbuilding of our city and county and safeguarding of the health and morals of many of our youth now without opportunity for self-expression."

The recreation program will employ the use of a supervisory personnel of 160 persons, most of whom will come from relief rolls.

Parks and Play Grounds - 1934

Illinois.

South Park Board Makes Clear Its Beach Stand

The South Park board does not favor discrimination either on the beaches under its jurisdiction or in any of its parks. This matter was made clear this week when, in the presence of A. L. Foster of The Chicago Urban League, Dr. Arthur G. Falls, the Chicago Interracial commission, and a representative of The Chicago Defender, Superintendent George Donoghue of the Consolidated park system explained the mystery of the Jackson park beach fence.

The conference called as a result of the arrests of 11 more persons all white at the beach last Sunday, included Lieutenant Hayes of the South Park police, William Bell superintendent of the South Park system, and V. K. Brown, recreational director of the South Park. Dr. Falls, who was on the beach last Sunday, and witnessed the arrests, recounted to the park officials just what took place.

Tells of Arrests

According to his statement, the people arrested were playing games and bathing peaceably when a detail of park policemen, headed by a sergeant, marched through the crowd to the wire enclosure, and picked out the eleven from among the throng, thereby creating a dramatic scene and attracting wide attention. Although all those arrested were white, the rumor was immediately spread that they were taken into custody because they were playing "with Negroes" and were encouraging them to "break down segregation at the beach."

"There is not now, nor has been any segregation on Jackson Park beach," declared Mr. Donoghue when the story was completed. He then called upon Mr. Brown to state just exactly why the fence and the enclosure had been erected. The latter declared that this was done simply to set aside a section of the beach from which the park could derive some revenue. An attempt had been made to charge an admission to the enclosure, but this had failed because bathers refused to pay the price asked, and it cost more to operate the pay gates than it was worth. Consequently, the admission fees were dropped, the only charges now being for certain privileges inside the enclosures.

Beaches for All

"We have tried to make it clear to all concerned that all facilities of the South Park are open to all citizens," Mr. Donoghue went on. That has always been the attitude of the South Park, all rumors spread by radical agitators to the contrary notwithstanding. We have instructed our police to afford ample protection to all persons enjoying our park facilities, but we will not tolerate the use of the beaches as places to stir up racial friction and agitation. White persons who attempt this may expect to be arrested the moment we learn of it. We are going to nip this business in the bud and thus prevent anything more serious."

After further consultation about the fence and its implications, the park officiels accepted a suggestion offered by Mr. Foster that gates be built in the northern side of the fence with signs telling everyone just what the enclosure is for. The gates, it is hoped, will make clear the fact that everyone who desires to use the enclosure and its facilities is invited to do so.

Parks and Play Grounds - 1934

Kansas

C. W. A. Funds Aid Negro Recreation Center

Plaindealer
2-9-34
Kansas City, Kansas.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPT. OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPEN EMPLOYMENT FOR TEACHERS

(Special to The Plaindealer)

Wichita—After two weeks of flourishing activities, Mr. Strong Hinman director of physical education of the local School board has pronounced the recreatinal centers a grad success. He is highly elated by virtue of the fact that his life time dream has been realized when Civil Works Administration provided the funds to establish and operate the work of social recreation service in Wichita. Thanks to the Roosevelt New Deal and the C. W. A.

A score of well trained Negro school teachers, worthy of such employment were assembled and are in charge of the program among colored people conducted at the L'Ouverture School, 13th and Mosley.

The splendid project was made possible: The Board of education loaned buildings and equipment of six school buildings for the centers. Salaries ranging from $50 to $200 monthly are paid by the government. Supplies for the various departments are paid for by the Parent Teachers Association, Community Chest and other civic organizations. Classes for men, women and juveniles are conducted in home making, dramatic art, arts and crafts music, hobbies and discussion groups.

The L'Ouverture Negro branch staff is as follows: Eugene Perry, director, Lulu Hill, hostess; Edward Johnson, discussion groups; Mayme Moore, homemaking; Gladys Holder, dramatic art; Thelma Letcher, music; Louise Meridith, pianist; Bernice Brandon, custodian; Marjorie Smith, cloakroom; Cleo Baker, clerk: Wesley Garrett, hobbies; Maxine Cooper, arts and crafts; Claude Anderson, janitor.

The centers were established four weeks ago as a noble experiment and have proved to be an absolute necessity in the community among our people, and the keen interest manifested by the large attendance is an indication that it may be a permanent fixture here for public good. Let's hope so.

Parks-and Play Grounds-1934

Louisiana.

New Orleans, La., Item
September 30, 1934

New City Park Golf Extension Credit To Negro Professional

When the New Orleans "divot-diggers" tee off at the new 18-hole extension golf course at City park on Thanksgiving Day they will have no one to thank for its perfection of lay out but Joe Bartholomew, Metairie's Negro professional. Joe is undoubtedly one of the best golf architects in the South as is evidenced by the work he has done on the courses in and around New Orleans.

"I became interested in golf when I was 10 years old," says Joe, "and have never done any other sort of work. I started off as a caddy and worked up to being club professional and am now supervisor of the grounds here at Metairie. I have held nearly every possible job around a golf course and have learned to make clubs as well as to lay out courses."

Studied Golf Architecture

With well fitting modesty Joe attributes his success to those under whom he has worked, giving particular credit to Fred McCloud, former Audubon professional and United States open champion in 1908, and to W. P. Stewart, who, as Joe puts it, has been his "boss" for years. With the help of these, as well as other men in New Orleans, he was able to attend the Seth Rayno School of Golf Architecture at South Hampton, Long Island, New York.

Joe Bartholomew's first essay at golf architecture was in assisting McCloud in the laying out of the Audubon course in 1912. Then, in 1920, he went to Patterson, Louisiana, where he built a nine-hole private course for L. Kemper Williams.

Planned Others

Since that time he has planned and superintended the construction of courses at the West Side Country club, the Baton Rouge Country club, Browns Wells, West Pass and the private course of Sam Zemurray in Hammond. He also planned and built the Metairie course of which he is now the club professional and instructor.

"We started work on the new City park course in 1933," Joe said, "and I think that it ought to be ready to play on by Thanksgiving Day."

This new course is to be one of the most beautiful as well as the most modern in the South and does justice to Joe Bartholomew's reputation as a golf architect without peer.

NEWS CLIPPINGS FILE
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE ARCHIVES
National Recreation Association.

Parks and Play Grounds-1934

3 Regional Centers Selected By Nat'l. Recreation Ass'n.

10-12-34

FORT WORTH.—The National Recreation Association has been developing the program of leisure time activities for American communities, announced this week that because of the widespread need for recreation leaders in many localities, it has decided to conduct a five-day community recreation Institute in three regional sections approximately centered by the cities where, tentatively, the Institutes will be conducted in the fall. These cities and dates for the Institutes, to which no tuition will be charged, will be Columbus, Ohio, beginning October 29; Fort Worth, Texas, beginning November 12; Greenville, S. C., beginning November 5.

Mr. Atwell was a visitor and interviewed several prospective recreational leaders who plan to attend the Fort Worth Institute. Mr. Geo. Mabson and several others have planned to go.

NAT'L REGREATION HOLDS BIG MEETING IN WASHINGTON

Washington—(CNS)—The National Recreation Congress met in Washington last week in a five-day session with more than 1,000 delegates in attendance, 130 of which were Negroes. The sessions were held at the Wardman Park Hotel, one of the most fashionable in the Capital. 10-12-34

The National Recreation Association, which sponsored the Congress, was founded in this city in 1906, and started with the assistance of Theodore Roosevelt, apostle of the "strenuous life" who then was in the White House. The object of the Congress was to discuss the problem of leisure time, and the way it can be best utilized. In attendance were superintendents of municipal recreation, park directors, heads of community centers, city planners, university professors, school superintendents, social workers, school teachers, and representatives of recreational agencies. The colored delegates were given a reception at Howard University, and taken on a general tour through the city.

The members of the reception committee who planned for the entertainment of the Negro delegation were: Anna Gordon, chairman; Thomas Anderson, John Barr, Jacqueline Cuney, C. H. Day, West A. Hamilton, Woolsey W. Hall, Dr. E. B. Henderson, Maj. Campbell C. Johnson, Virginia Richardson McGuire, Florence Matthews, Gabrielle Pelham, Mae Stewart Thompson, Miss A. J. Turner, Edward Underdown, and Garnet C. Wilkinson.

National Recreation Association.

Parks and Play Grounds-1934

Recreation Heads of 6 States Meet

11-10-34

COLUMBUS, Ohio., Nov. 9.—Delegates representing six states were present at a Regional Recreational Institute conducted by E. T. Attwel of the National Recreation association at Beatty Park Recreation Center, October 29 to November 2. Charles F. Wells, Robert K. Murray and George L. Johnson assisted at this conference.

Mayor Henry W. Worley welcomed the Institute to Columbus setting forth the pressing need for adequate supervision of leisure time activities and a well-rounded program for recreation purposes.

The following is a list of delegates: Cincinnati, Ohio: De Hart Hubbard, J. A. Moore, Allegra Childs, Ieola Townsend and Verne Greene; Dayton, Ohio: Bertie Ellis and Edna Jones; Lancaster, Pa.: Mrs. Ruby Payne; Lexington, Ky.: Ollie Davis and T. E. Brown; Baltimore, Md.: C. C. Jackson; Pittsburgh, Pa.: William Leftridge; Louisville, Ky.: George Clement; Terre Haute, Ind.: Donald Porter; Chicago, Ill.: Laura Roberts and a number of Columbus delegates.

Parks and Play Grounds - 1934

New Jersey

CITIZEN
Lakewood, N.J.
FEB 9 1934

RIGHTS OF COLORED PEOPLE AND WHITE PEOPLE

The rights of the colored people, or more especially of colored school children to swim in school swimming pools, have been upheld in a decision of the New Jersey Court of Errors and Appeals. The decision of the Supreme Court prohibiting Trenton school authorities from segregating Negro pupils in the use of swimming pools has been unanimously sustained.

Colored boys and girls are entitled to receive instructions, without any discrimination, predicated upon race, is the opinion of Justice Joseph L. Bodine of the Supreme Court as expressed in the case of Chester W. Patterson, Negro resident of Trenton, in an appeal from the ruling of the Trenton Board of Education. To segregate them in swimming instruction because of their color is held unlawful discrimination.

There are objectionable individuals in every race. There are "Smart Alec" whites and there are freshies among both colored and white. The smart "guys" no matter what the color is or is not, make all the trouble.

There are modest and well behaved colored people and they are long suffering, too. They suffer doubly because of the reflections upon their race which result from the misbehaviour of some of their own people as individuals. The whole colored race is blackened and condemned by the recklessness or thoughtlessness of a few. The responsibility for the control of their people rests heavily upon the colored race. This seems to be so, but tolerance can be gained for the race as a whole only by eradicating roudyism in individuals.

Rowdyism among whites is just as objectionable. A rowdy is a rowdy whether he or she be white or colored says the Pleasantville Press.

What the good colored people and the good white people demand is respect for decency, modesty of manner, the body properly clothed and orderly conduct. Good colored people recognize that the rights of the white people must also be upheld, if they expect their own rights to be upheld

Parks and Play Grounds – 1934

New York.

Negro Honored By City In Naming New Harlem Playground

Late Corporal McCray's Mother Unveils A Memorial Plaque

7-21-34

On Sunday, July 15, Mayor Fiorella LaGuardia dedicated nine playgrounds throughout the city with a radio address. One of these playgrounds is located at 47 West 138th street and has been named the Corporal William McCray Playground in honor of one of the first soldiers of the 369th Infantry, New York National Guard.

Young McCray, a native New Yorker who went overseas with Company D of the famous Old Fifteenth Regiment, was killed in action while serving under command of the French forces.

His mother, Mrs. McCray of 460 West 147th street, unveiled a plaque in his honor as part of the dedication ceremonies. The 369th Infantry Band also gave a concert and a large number of young people enjoyed the wading pool.

The new playground is in the 21st Aldermanic District and was selected through the efforts of Alderman Conrad Johnson.

Mayor F. H. LaGuardia Signs Bill Naming Playground After Negro

Despite the publicity in a local paper that white and Negro groups were fighting to have the playground named MaComber Park, The New York Age learned early Monday morning that Mayor LaGuardia had signed the bill making it official that the former Rusurban property which was made nto a playground and park for the neighborhood children will be known as the Crispus Attucks Playground. Crispus Attucks, was not only the first Negro but the first man to die when the British rebels attacked his army of Attucks in Boston, in 1854.

This is the first time a site or a monument of any kind in Brooklyn has been named after a Negro.

A petition with about seventy five signatures of Brooklyn and out-of-town residents in favor of the playground being named after Mabel MaComber, a white woman, was presented to Alderman James B. Allen, by a Negro not connected with Mr. Wibecan's organzation. Alderman Allen then suggested that the Crispus Attucks Community Council draw up a petition. This was done and within forty-eight hours the Crispus Attucks Community Council delegation had close to one thousand signatures.

Mr. Wibecan will announce the date the ceremony will take place for the naming of the playground.

Alderman James B. Allen is due much credit for assisting the Council in the naming of the playground and inducing the Mayor to sign the bill.

Parks and Play Grounds-1934

North Carolina

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
January 6, 1934

CHARLOTTE'S APPEAL.

A few days ago a roar issued from headquarters at Washington about the backwardness of communities in applying for CWA funds and threat was made that if requests were not forthcoming, the money would be withdrawn. Now the shoe seems to be on the other foot, for the concern of the Charlotte Parks and Play Grounds Commission and of the mayor and councilmen, is to get action at Raleigh. They have "resoluted" in favor of prompt consideration of the projects which have been forwarded for improvement of parks and play grounds and stand ready to start the work and put the money into circulation as soon as the word is given. And the Charlotte proposition is one inviting immediate action for the various projects will be of approval by the whole city. Especially would The Observer commend that which applies to the matter of better park and play ground facilities for the negro population of the city. The Observer has often insisted that Charlotte has a high class of negro citizenship, this largely because the majority of the negroes are homeowners, a tribute to the influence of the local building and loan associations—and owning a home makes a good citizen.

The negro population of Charlotte deserves all the consideration that has been given it by the city government and inclusion of further benefits to that race in the improvement projects is altogether proper and right. The park and recreation projects advanced by Charlotte appear to be of a kind that would invite favorable action by the Raleigh office.

Goldsboro, N. C. Argus
March 27, 1934

Recreational Classes Set For Colored

George Johnson to Direct Four Weeks Course for Negroes

George Johnson, colored field representative of the National Recreation Association, New York, will direct recreational classes among the colored people of Goldsboro and Wayne county for four weeks, beginning April 6.

The recreational workers is a specialist in organizing and training chooral groups and the work in Wayne county will culminate at the end of the four weeks in a chorus concert of colored singers of the county. Further details of the concert will be given later.

Although music is the worker's special line, he will give training in various types of games and in drama while he is teaching classes in the county.

For a number of years representatives of the National Recreation Association have been coming here to work with the white people of the section, and Johnson plans to do the same type of work among the colored that other workers have done among the white people.

Charlotte, N. C., News
April 5, 1934

Ehringhaus Invited To Talk To Negroes

Ranson, Superintendent Of Parks, Announces Invitation To Governor To Speak At Mass Meeting In Interest Of Parks On May 13.

Governor Ehringhaus was today invited by Lacy Ranson, superintendent of the park and recreation commission, to deliver the principal address at a mass meeting of Charlotte negroes Sunday afternoon May 13 when a campaign for funds to complete Fairview Park, a negro recreation center, will be launched.

Mr. Ranson's invitation was extended to the governor in a telephone conversation and Mr. Ehringhaus assured the local park executive that he would be delighted to come to Charlotte if his schedule will permit.

At the time of the conversation Governor Ehirnghaus said that his schedule was not before him and he could not say definitely whether he can come but that he will if he can possibly arrange it. He also suggested that Mr. Ranson write him setting forth fully the purpose of the meeting.

A group of negro citizens who are interested in raising funds among the negro citizenship to complete the park met last night at the negro Y. W. C. A. and laid preliminary plans. The central campaign committee of which Henry Houston, negro newspaper editor, is chairman, will meet next Thursday at 7:30 P. M. with Mayor Wearn at the council chamber in the city hall.

A. E. Spears, negro agent, is chairman of the negro reation committee and has tively interested in launching campaign to raise the funds from among the negroes of the city.

The city government has donated to the park and recreation commission the former water works property, located on the extension of Andrill Terrace, which is being developed as a recreation center for negroes. Much work in grading and other improvements have been done by the CWA, which also overhauled one of the filter basins of the former water station into a swimming pool 100 feet square.

The campaign will be undertaken to raise funds for the purchase of materials to convert the water station into a recreation center. Plans, drawn by Hall Morrison Irwin, Jr., for improvement of the interior of the building provide for showers and dressing quarters, a gymnasium, auditorium, with capacity to seat 700 persons, and recreation hall.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
May 8, 1934

BOOKER LAUDS NEGROES' PARK

New Recreation Center Will Be Most Unusual in State, Inspector Says.

"The swimming pool and building at Fairview park will form, when completed, the most unusual recreation center that I have seen anywhere in North Carolina," Inspector Booker of the North Carolina board of health reported to Lacy Ranson, superintendent of parks and recreation, yesterday after inspecting the new negro park at the old waterwerks plant in Biddleville.

Inspector Booker was enthusiastic over the recreational possibilities of the new plant, which will be the only real park for negroes in the city.

TO START CAMPAIGN.

Negro citizens of the city are completing plans, Mr. Ranson said, for a rally Sunday afternoon that will mark the opening of a campaign among the negroes themselves to raise a fund with which to purchase materials and equipment to finish Fairview park, which was started with CWA funds.

Dr. Frank Porter Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, will speak to the negroes at 5 p. m. One section of the auditorium will be reserved for white people. The meeting will be preceded by a parade of negro military, civic, and school organizations through the negro sections of the city.

The musical program at the rally will be given by 30 pupils of Second Ward high school, directed by K. H. Diamond, assisted by Carrie Robinson. The group will sing two anthems, two semi-classic numbers, and several spirituals. Solo numbers will be sung by Eula Williams and Willie Clair, sopranos, and a trio will be given by Eula Williams, Estelle Wool, and Ada Knox..

The campaign committee met last night and will hold several other meetings during the week to plan the canvass of negro citizens for contributions to the fund.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
May 12, 1934

ASKS APPROVAL OF NEGRO PARK

Gilmore Urges Raleigh Officials to Take Prompt Action So That Work May Start.

Charles F. Gilmore, county administrator of federal relief in Mecklenburg county, yesterday wrote Raleigh headquarters urging early approval of the negro recreation project at Erwin park.

"I consider this project of extreme importance to Charlotte, and for that reason I am anxious to get the work started as soon as possible. With this in view, I wrote to Raleigh today asking that early approval be given," Mr. Gilmore said.

At the same time, Mr. Gilmore said that work on all projects at Independence park will be in full swing next week with 175 or 200 men at work on the tennis courts, the baseball park, and the stadium.

Plans had been made to start work on the stadium this week, but so few men could have been placed on the project that it was considered advisable to wait until Monday, when a full crew could be started.

The tennis courts are already being worked on. Work on the bleachers, playing field, and dugouts of the baseball field will be started, along with the stadium work, and other men will be at work on anything else to be done at the park.

So far as is known, the recreation park at Erwin park will be the only one for negroes of any degree of efficiency in North Carolina. "The plans call for a park of which the negroes and other citizens of the city may well be proud, and I think great good will be accomplished by provision of such a place of pleasure and recreation," Mr. Gilmore said.

The materials for completion of the recreation center have just arrived, and the work can be started as soon as approval is received from Raleigh.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
OBSERVER

MAY 6 - 1934

Appeal to Charlotte Negroes.

To The Observer:

Afro-Americans will be given an opportunity to do something for themselves the week beginning May 13th, when they will be asked to make a contribution to a fund being raised to purchase material to help finish the park for our people near the Fairview School.

Several acres of land have been set aside for this park by the city government, and when completed will be the most modern recreational center in the city. Work on the mammoth swimming pool has been temporarily stopped, but will be resumed in the near future, a street has been opened from Oakland avenue to the Park and several tennis courts have been completed, except the back-stops which have already been purchased. The old water works building is to be repaired to provide an office, an auditorium, dressing rooms and provisions for in-door games which will permit a year round program.

This center when completed is certain to become the main attraction for our people here, as well as friends who visit the city. Material has already been purchased to complete the swimming pool and the work is to be done by the Federal Government, but we will not be able to provide dressing rooms and other facilities unless we raise funds to purchase the material needed in repairing the building. We have gone too far on this project to stop.

To meet this emergency, our division, in co-operation with a large group of interested citizens, will make a thorough canvass of our people in the hope that this fund may be raised. We have on hand more than $200 realized from the music Festival last year, which is to be repeated early in July. We have already signed a contract for the return of Geo. L. Johnson of New York to spend the entire month of June here training our large chorus, and all of these funds will go into this major project which will become the property of negroes from all parts of the city. All money raised this campaign will be handled by our division and properly disbursed through our treasurer, Mrs. G. E. Davis. We plan to inscribe the names of all persons who contribute as much as $1 in a large book to become a part of our permanent records and placed on display in the building to be reviewed by visitors. Let's pull together and make our park the best in the south.

A. E. SPEARS,
Chairman, Negro Division, Charlotte Park and Recreation Commission.
Charlotte.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
OBSERVER

MAY 6 - 1934

Dr. John Hill Tucker, Chairman,
Mr. Lacy Ranson, Superintendent,
Park and Recreation Commission.

Gentlemen:

Your program for the development of Fairview park for colored people is commendable, and the enthusiastic co-operation being given by the leaders of the negro race in Charlotte is gratifying. It is a fine use which is to be made of the old water works site and building in the northwestern section of the city. I am informed that with the aid of CWA workers all necessary grading has been done and a swimming pool has been provided. What remains to be done is to make the necessary alterations in the adequate and substantial building to provide a gymnasium and other recreational facilities.

It speaks well for the colored people of the community that they are uniting in a campaign to raise the necessary money for this purpose, beginning with a parade and rally next Sunday, to be featured by an address by Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the university of North Carolina. It is hoped the movement will prove completely successful, especially in view of the fact that the colored people of Charlotte do not have a park.

GENERAL MECKLENBURG.

Greensboro, N. C., Record
June 1, 1934

PLAN PROGRAM FOR NEGROES

Recreational Activities For That Division For This Summer Are Outlined

The general recreational program adopted by the negro division leaders of the city recreational commission was approved by the members of the city recreation commission at a special meeting held in the city hall Thursday afternoon, according to announcement today by Daniel R. Neal, director.

The general negro program calls for the improvement of certain areas into be established as recreational playgrounds and community centers for various activities during the summer months.

Meet Half of Expense.

Rev. R. T. Weatherby, chairman of the negro committee, which is also composed of Prof. T. A. Tarpley, F. D. Bluford, Prof. A. H. Peeler, W. L. Jones, Dr. G. C. Simkins and D. D. Jones, reported the plans to the commission, stating that this group would raise half of the expenses required for the recreational program in the negro schools.

A. H. Peeler, of the city school system, has been named as director of the recreational program for the negro schools during the summer months.

Program As Outlined.

The program outlined by Weatherby includes establishing of recreational centers at Nocho park, Washington Street school, J. C. Price school, and another at some suitable place on East Market street along with others at churches. Community centers would be established at J. C. Price school and Washington Street school.

The playgrounds would be open and under supervision from 4 until 7 o'clock every afternoon and the community centers would be open one night each week, under plans outlined.

The commission members also took up the proposed budget of the recreation organization for the summer, and discussed plans for organizing boys' baseball clubs in various sections of the city. This program will be under the direction of M. D. Teague, of the city school system.

Asheville, N. C., Citizen
December 29, 1934

Plan Recreat For Ashev

Officials Launch Move To Remodel Old Jail For Purpose

The old county jail, for many years the scene of tribulation and misery, and for the past five years a mouldering white elephant to the county, may become one of the finest recreation centers for negroes in the south during 1935.

Definite plans to submit an application to state ERA officials at once for funds to remodel the building into a recreation hall were made yesterday at a conference of relief officials and city and county officials at city hall.

Ramsey Names Committee

D. Hiden Ramsey, general-manager of the Citizen-Times company, presided, and at the end of the meeting appointed a committee to get the project in shape so that Miss E. Grace Miller, city-county ERA director, can forward it to Raleigh. The committee includes: P. L. Threlkeld, representing the city government; Commissioner Sam A. Johnson, representing the county; W. S. McCrary, builder; and W. M. Smithers. The committee will prepare an estimate of the cost of the materials to remodel, the amount of space in the building needed for starting the project, etc.

H. Grady Reagan, chairman of the county commissioners, said that the county would execute the necessary papers to turn the property over to the Negro Welfare council as soon as desired. "If we can get the building remodeled it will make one of the finest negro recreation centers in the country," he added.

Mr. Ramsey pointed out that the building and its large lot were peculiarly well situated for the purpose, being adjacent to the large negro settlements in the southeast part of the city. The lot runs clear to Eagle street, leaving plenty of room for tennis courts, outdoor basketball, horse-shoes and other outdoor sports.

Everett Supports Plan

Chief of Police W. J. Everett warmly supported the move. "Seventy per cent of all petty larceny offenses are committed by small negro boys from six years of age up," he said. "A recreation center in that neighborhood for negroes will keep these boys out of trouble to a great degree."

Mr. Ramsey said merchants had told him that some years ago before the development of recreation centers for white boys, juvenile petty larceny was a tremendous source of loss to all stores here. Nowadays petty store thefts by white boys are rare. A similar recreation program in negro neighborhoods would have a similar curative effect, he said.

The need for recreational facilities for negro children is naturally more actue than for white children, because virtually all negro mothers work away from home all day and seldom do their little homes have any yards. The children therefore play in the streets, utterly neglected, and acquire vicious habits, which cost the city thousands of dollars in police protection as they grow up, Mr. Ramsey explained.

Mr. Threlkeld explained that the heating and plumbing system in the old jail must be replaced and some support for the floors installed when the cell-blocks are taken out. Labor, however, will comprise three-fourths of the total cost of remodeling and Miss Miller said the ERA will provide the labor.

Charles S. Walters of the Carolina Power and Light company and City Manager George L. Hackney also attended the meeting and warmly approved the project.

Ohio.

Parks and Play Grounds-1934

CINCINNATI, O.
TIMES STAR

SEP 3 1934

Negroes and Amusement Parks

To the Editor of the Times-Star:

In order that the colored folks may have an opportunity to visit the amusement parks that are maintained for white people only, I think it a good idea for the proprietors, after they officially close their parks to the white people, to keep them open one week longer for the entertainment of the colored race.

Of course, charge the usual admission and the same rates for all amusements as for the white race.

L. E.

Parks and Play Grounds - 1934

A Gentleman's Agreement

"As long as I am mayor you'll never get Hassman park." This is the ultimatum delivered by Mayor Tom McGee to a delegation representing the Oklahoma City Negro Business League Tuesday. Mayor McGee is reported in the daily press as being angry. League members were termed "selfish Negroes" and the delegation where admonished to "stop following some of your leaders who will get you in trouble.'" Black Dispatch 3-30-34

Now, what Mayor McGee needs is information, and he should go to former Mayor Blinn for that information. Negroes and Negro leaders did not bring about the situation and the seeming difficulty Tuesday. White folk did that.

There is not a Negro in Oklahoma City who was thinking about the immediate possibilities of a park such as Hassman park back in 1931. Along about that time Mayor Blinn sent two of his councilmen over to the Oklahoma City Business League. They came unsolicited and asked for a conference. In that conference they informed the executive committee of the Business League that if the league would engineer the consent of the Negro group for the use of the southwestern corner of the Booker Washington playground for drilling purposes, the city in turn would allow the league members to select the oil lease best suited to the league and could later select a park site, which the city would buy with such funds as were derived out of the sale of the lease and royalties. Oklahoma City, Okla.

So anxious were certain city officials to make this deal that some of them at times indicated, before the deal went through, that all of the money derived from this oil lease would be used to buy, develop and beautify a Negro park. A gentleman's agreement was covenanted, and every Negro in Oklahoma City was advised through speeches made to them by councilmen, that this agreement would be carried out to the letter.

Time went on. The deal was consummated. In January of last year, when this writer appeared before the city council to discuss this matter, we showed by the city auditor's records that there had been derived out of the Skirvin well $18,000 cash bonus, $29,000 in first oil runs and $11,803 in royalties. Almost $50,000, and yet the city paid only $25,000 for Hassman park. It is safe to say that by this time the city has placed in its exchequer fully $100,000 under this gentleman's agreement it had with the Negroes.

With deliberation and full knowledge of what they were doing, members of the city council appointed a committee to purchase a park. It is true that this committee was influenced (as they should have been) by the desires of Negroes. Many tracts were surveyed and finally the city council (not the Negroes) purchased Hassman park. They bought it in a meeting and at a time when Negroes were present and with full knowledge that it would be occupied by the Negro residents of the city.

Time went on. A little later the park board met. In conjunction with the city council's approval, and the then manager, Albert McRill, it was agreed that the Negroes should name the park. Negro ministers and various heads of groups, supposing that the city government was composed of men whose word meant something, met and selected a name for this new park. This writer sat on the nominating committee in the Avery Chapel. The name finally selected was transported by this writer to the city hall and accepted by the city park board. (Here was another gentleman's agreement.)

The park board then informed the Business League that on the 19th day of June the park could be formally dedicated and the name given to the public. (Another gentleman's agreement.)

In the light of this record we want to ask Mayor Tom McGee to identify those persons he now terms as "selfish Negroes." The leaders we were following when we embarked into the notion that we would have a new park, were Mayor Blinn and the members of the then city council. Why is not the wrath of the mayor hurled at members of the city council and Mayor Blinn? The leaders we had in the park movement were white—not black. It appears however, that their motives were black—not white.

We want to turn now from the record and talk about something having to do with human virtue. What is a gentleman's agreement? Our notion is that it is an understanding between two individuals of integrity and honesty; two individuals, who while not bound by any legal obligations consider that their word is their bond. Such individuals are creatures of probity, uprightness and rectitude.

The anger of Mayor McGee cannot blot out the fact that the Negroes of Oklahoma City have a gentleman's agreement with the city government. That gentleman's agreement is that out of the money derived from the Booker Washington oil lease, the Negroes shall have the right to select their own site and location for a park (not Mayor McGee). That gentleman's agreement involves all we have put into the record, and more. If this agreement is not carried out, we voice the sentiment of 14,622 Negroes when we say:

"What is it that white folk tell Negroes in Oklahoma City that Negroes can afford to believe?"

Oklahoma City, Okla.
OKLAHOMAN

MAR 29 1934

Adjust the Differences

IT will be an unfortunate thing indeed if division of opinion among Negro citizens and among city authorities retards or kills for the time being the effort to provide a city park for the Negro population of the city. While the solution of the problem is beset with difficulties, it is not impossible to solve it in a fairly satisfactory manner. No mere difference of opinion as to where the park shall be located should be allowed to kill the program. The Negroes need a park sorely and they are abundantly entitled to it. The Negroes themselves should adjust any differences that may divide them and the city authorities should work earnestly to provide those park facilities which are demanded not only by a spirit of justice and fair play but by the welfare of the entire city as well.

Oklahoma City, Okla.
OKLAHOMAN

MAY 17 1934

The Proper Choice

IN choosing a site for a city park for Negroes the city planning commission had only two available sites before it. The Hassman park, while suitable in some respects, is about 1½ miles from the Negro residential section and is therefore practically inaccessible to a large part of the Negro population. The south portion of Fair park is adjacent to the Negro residential section and better suited for the purpose the planning commission has in view. The decision is in favor of Fair park, and when all circumstances are taken into consideration it must be admitted that the planning commission has reached the proper decision.

Objection to the use of any part of the fairgrounds property for park purposes was duly made, but the objection lacked much of being convincing. Ultimately it is hoped that an expanding fair enterprise will call for the use of all of the grounds now controlled by the fair association, but that hope thus far lacks a lot of being fullfilled. The grounds that are available for park purposes are vacant at the present time, and there is no good reason why they should not be used. There are acres lying idle and there are thousands of Negroes living near by who need park facilities sorely. What more sensible than to utilize these idle acres and provide park advantages for the people who need them?

In all probability Hassman will ultimately become a park for Negro citizens and the planning commission is fully aware of that probability. In the nature of things the trend of Negro expansion will continue to be towards Hassman. When the time arrives when the conversion of Hassman into a park for Negroes is the proper thing to do that park can be taken over and the grounds temporarily occupied at Fair park can be abandoned. At least that is the intention of the planning commission.

Parks and Play Grounds - 1934

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The park board then informed the Business League that on the 19th day of June the park could be formally dedicated and the name given to the public. (Another gentleman's agreement.)

In the light of this record we want to ask Mayor Tom McGee to identify those persons he now terms as "selfish Negroes." The leaders we were following when we embarked into the notion that we would have a new park, were Mayor Blinn and the members of the then city council. Why is not the wrath of the mayor hurled at members of the city council and Mayor Blinn? The leaders we had in the park movement were white—not black. It appears however, that their motives were black—not white.

We want to turn now from the record and talk about something having to do with human virtue. What is a gentleman's agreement? Our notion is that it is an understanding between two individuals of integrity and honesty; two individuals, who while not bound by any legal obligations consider that their word is their bond. Such individuals are creatures of probity, uprightness and rectitude.

The anger of Mayor McGee cannot blot out the fact that the Negroes of Oklahoma City have a gentleman's agreement with the city government. That gentleman's agreement is that out of the money derived from the Booker Washington oil lease, the Negroes shall have the right to select their own site and location for a park (not Mayor McGee). That gentleman's agreement involves all we have put into the record, and more. If this agreement is not carried out, we voice the sentiment of 14,622 Negroes when we say:

"What is it that white folk tell Negroes in Oklahoma City that Negroes can afford to believe?"

Oklahoma City, Okla.
OKLAHOMAN
MAY 17 1934

The Proper Choice

IN choosing a site for a city park for Negroes the city planning commission had only two available sites before it. The Hassman park, while suitable in some respects, is about 1½ miles from the Negro residential section and is therefore practically inaccessible to a large part of the Negro population. The south portion of Fair park is adjacent to the Negro residential section and better suited for the purpose the planning commission has in view. The decision is in favor of Fair park, and when all circumstances are taken into consideration it must be admitted that the planning commission has reached the proper decision.

Objection to the use of any part of the fairgrounds property for park purposes was duly made, but the objection lacked much of being convincing. Ultimately it is hoped that an expanding fair enterprise will call for the use of all of the grounds now controlled by the fair association, but that hope thus far lacks a lot of being fullfilled. The grounds that are available for park purposes are vacant at the present time, and there is no good reason why they should not be used. There are acres lying idle and there are thousands of Negroes living near by who need park facilities sorely. What more sensible than to utilize these idle acres and provide park advantages for the people who need them?

In all probability Hassman will ultimately become a park for Negro citizens and the planning commission is fully aware of that probability. In the nature of things the trend of Negro expansion will continue to be towards Hassman. When the time arrives when the conversion of Hassman into a park for Negroes is the proper thing to do that park can be taken over and the grounds temporarily occupied at Fair park can be abandoned. At least that is the intention of the planning commission.

Oklahoma City, Okla.
OKLAHOMAN
MAR 29 1934

Adjust the Differences

IT will be an unfortunate thing indeed if division of opinion among Negro citizens and among city authorities retards or kills for the time being the effort to provide a city park for the Negro population of the city. While the solution of the problem is beset with difficulties, it is not impossible to solve it in a fairly satisfactory manner. No mere difference of opinion as to where the park shall be located should be allowed to kill the program. The Negroes need a park sorely and they are abundantly entitled to it. The Negroes themselves should adjust any differences that may divide them and the city authorities should work earnestly to provide those park facilities which are demanded not only by a spirit of justice and fair play but by the welfare of the entire city as well.

PROTEST AGAINST USE OF HASSMAN PARK BY WHITES MADE TO COUNCIL BY WHITE MINISTERS

Black Dispatch
5-31-24 Oklahoma

ALLIANCE REMINDS MAYOR OF "GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT" PROPOSED BY CITY COUNCIL

Cite Fact That Minority Group Was Denied Hearing

Ired because of the recommendation of the park board that Hassman Park be developed for a white recreational center, members of the white ministerial alliance passed resolutions this week, and forwarded same to the mayor and city council.

The following are the resolutions:

"The White Minister's Alliance of Oklahoma City respectfully requests you not to accept the recommendation of the City Planning Commission, with reference to Hassman Park, without both the Planning Commission and your honorable body giving full opportunity for our colored citizens to be heard regarding the matter. We make this request for the following reasons:

"1. The City Council asked our colored citizens to allow Booker Washington Park to be used for oil purposes, with the understanding that the colored people might select another park, which park the city would purchase for them. They selected Hassman Park, then not owned or used by the city. The city purchased this park for them. Are we keeping faith with them fully, not to let them have it?

"2. Have representative groups of our colored citizens been consulted as to the possibility of their using Hassman Park to advantage? There are cities having parks for colored citizens farther from their place of residence.

"3. They should have ample park playgrounds close at hand for the daily use of this people. But is there any good reason why they should not have a real park, even at some distance to serve them as Northeast Park serves our white people? The proposed Fair Park, with very little shade, hardly seems suitable for Sundays, holidays, special days and the large use that would be made of such a Park as Hassman most every day.

"4. Our colored citizens now have access to a tiny park at the northeast corner of the Fair Grounds. From this park, they pass but one white home getting to Hassman Park, less than a half mile beyond. A colored man owns the place south of Hassman Park. It is bounded on the east by road and oil tanks; on the north by road; and there are no white residences close to the western border. There is no place or direction in which they can better expand from present terribly crowded areas and find suitable facilities.

"5. Our colored citizens are a decided minority, without representation on City Council or Planning Commission. Their only protection is in being given full opportunity for hearings, and then have just, fair and unselfish treatment by those who represent the white majority. Their case is in our hands. Do we not owe it to ourselves, as well as to them, to see that they get full justice in this matter?

"We trust it is needless to say that this request is not in any spirit of criticism, but in the most friendly cooperative spirit. It springs from our desire to be of help."

Tennessee

Parks and Play Grounds-1934

Chattanooga, Tenn. News
February 3, 1934

Thompson Selects Two Interracial Committees

T. C. Thompson, chairman of the Chattanooga Interracial Committee, Saturday morning announced the appointment of two committees, one for improvement of conditions in the schools and the other to promote better playground facilities for the Negroes.

The School Committee is composed of the Rev. L. D. Cartwright, chairman; E. S. Abernathy, vice-chairman, and A. M. Pennybacker, secretary.

The Playground Committee personnel is: the Rev. N. C. Griffin, chairman; Dr. W. B Davis, vice-chairman, and B. J. Jackson, secretary, all representatives of the colored race.

At a recent meeting of the Interracial Committee charges of politics in the schools were made, and it was decided at that time to create a special subcommittee to investigate these conditions and try to bring about an improvement in the situation.

Memphis, Tenn., Com'rcial Appeal
May 10, 1934

NEGRO SCOUTS TO AID IN DEDICATING PARK

Triple Band Concert to Precede Formal Ceremonies

A rally of 16 negro Boy Scout troops and a triple band concert will precede the formal dedication of Lincoln Park, Memphis' finest park for negroes, Saturday afternoon, Dave Renfrow, park superintendent, said yesterday.

The letter carriers' band, the drum and bugle corps of the Autress Russell post, American Legion, and the drum and bugle corps of Booker T. Washington School, will take part. The speaking is scheduled to start at 2:30.

Park Commissioners L. R. Hawley, A. L. Parker and Joe Brennan are expected to be on the program, as well as the county commission, which donated the ground, and Mayor Overton, with the city commission.

Following the dedication, games, athletic contests, a tumbling exhibition and a boxing match are on the program. The new park is on the new Jefferson Davis Highway, east of Forest Hill Cemetery.

Parks and Play Grounds - 1934.

Texas.

This Matter of Recreation

The recent visit of Mr. Atwell, of National Recreation Association fame, to Texas, brings to mind what a problem to Texas Negroes is this matter of recreation. For the most part in Texas, as well as all over the South, recreation is a thing which is provided out of the tax money mainly for everybody else but Negroes.

The Informer is therefore glad to see Mr. Atwell come to Texas to try to help make some contribution to our pressing problem of recreation, not only for Negro youth, but for Negro adults as well. Texas Negroes should above everybody else welcome him to the state and give him full co-operation. He has come to give us help where help is badly needed.

City Recreation Council Hears C. T. Atwell

Miss Besselle Johnson Makes Full Report On Conference

HOUSTON.—In a meeting Tuesday evening of the city-wide Recreation Council, Mr. C. T. Atwell, field worker, National Recreation Association, gave an address of most informative inspiration to local recreation leaders and supporters.

In an open plea for a strong leadership group which by all means must be supported by a recreation-conscious, cooperative community the speaker expressed the dominant needs for any locality. In this period of rapidly increasing leisure for youth and adult the needs and functions of public recreation are more and more evident. That recreation is a phase of social improvement looming larger than any other agency is no longer a questionable theory but an actual fact. The problem of adequate facilities should and must concern every individual citizen in proportion to his needs. The unemployed, the unemployable, the 'New Deal' 5-hour day etc. have given tremendous increase to former needs. Will this free time be an asset or a liability?

Mr. Atwell assured his listeners through statement of facts that it could be either. Which do you pre-

fer was the challenge made. The race, thinks Mr. Atwell, will always be dependent for public recreation. Inasmuch as it has yet to create interest in its own problems. Antipathy must be broken down in our groups, as churches, fraternal associations, etc. There is no mass desire for more abundant life here on earth—no togetherness for good, no thoughtfulness for group problems, no group growth. The race must change the attitude of public officials. He suggests public recreation supplemented by other agencies wanted and supported as a way out. The speaker left the important final thought that play was important and must not be overlooked, yet it was second to work which is needed, wanted and must be provided. The Council discussed immediate and final possibilities of having Mr. Atwell make a practical scientific survey of the recreational needs of the city. Such a survey will include an analysis of all other agencies and will be built on facts, not opinions.

Other interesting features of the meeting were a very inclusive report of the southwest regional conference at Fort Worth, November 12-14, by Miss V. Besselle M. Johnson, and a report of the council committee on local needs and facilities given by F. S. K. Whittaker.

YMCA Presents Playground Talk By E. T. Atwell

Physical Effort Not Major Aim; Music

BEAUMONT.—An earnest and interested group met at the College Street Branch YMCA Saturday night, December 2, and heard an inspiring address delivered by E. T. Atwell, Field Director of the National Recreation Association of New York. Mr. Atwell, a former athlete and for a number of years connected with Tuskegee Institute, is a very pleasing, interesting and inspiring speaker. In a 30 minutes' talk he related many phases of recreational activities.

When one speaks of recreation with the ordinary mind, they speak of play. Mr. Atwell dealt at length on free and leisure time and the better way to spend it. He stated that the American people had been very generous in providing institutions and places of recreation for the abnormal, such as jails, asylums etc., but little provision is made for the free and leisure time of normal people. Free time recreation is necessary and proves wholesome and profitable for young and old. One of the important things with young people is to associate with their name the degrees M. A., B. S., and so on. In so many instances the most important thing the young people need to add to their name is the word, job.

In his discussion he stated that the major activity in recreation was music and gave concrete examples of the same. Recreation for children that they may be able to dispose of their surplus energy was beautifully explained by the speaker. He climaxed his address with a spiritual aplication in recreation. The address of Mr. Atwell was so convincing that the group unanimously agreed that they were guilty of gross neglect and agreed to organize a recreational council along the plans outlined by Mr. Atwell, realizing that those who labored have free time that should be spent profitably. A meeting and a program was arranged for the night of December 2. The visit of Mr. Atwell had a telling effect for good on the Negroes of Beaumont.

Parks and Play Grounds - 1934

Virginia.
6

NEW CENTER TO HAVE COLORED MANAGEMENT

Fight Looming Over Location Of Structure

2-1-34

Richmond Bureau
504 N. Third St.

RICHMOND, Va. — No white persons will be connected with the proposed athletic and recreation center to be built here if the $52,500 loan is granted by the Public Works Administration, it was announced by R. T. Lipscomb, sponsor of the project.

Said Mr. Lipscomb, "all officers, directors, managers, and operators of concessions will be high type colored men."

Norfolk Va.

This statement was made by the sponsor after a news release stated that the management of the center was to be bi-racial.

Indications are, however, that the project sponsors will encounter bitter opposition in attempting to locate the modern recreation plant on the Leigh Street site now designated in the plans.

Loan Requested 2 Weeks Ago

A grant of $52,500 was asked of the Public Works Administration here two weeks ago by the Athletic and Recreation Center, Inc., of Richmond for the construction and equipment of an athletic and recreation center for colored people here. Facts relating to the proposed center were published in an article carried in the columns of the Journal and Guide, issue of February 3.

The definite policy of the corporation, however, as announced by Mr. Lipscomb removes all doubt as to how the center shall be operated and who shall be the owners of the property after the loan from the government has been repaid.

Application for the loan with which to construct the edifice was filed by R. T. Lipscomb, Sr., with Wallerstein, Goode and Evans as attorneys and Mulheman and Kayhoe as engineers and contractors.

The proposal to locate the center on West Leigh Street, opposite Armstrong High School, is expected to precipitate a bitter fight. It is hinted that these citizens are in favor of locating the center on the site originally selected for its erection—on Clay Street between Second and Third.

According to present plans, which have been drawn up by the promoters, the building is to contain a gymnasium, swimming pool, spectators seats, locker rooms, shower rooms, standard basketball court, with space for dancing, boxing, wrestling and tennis and a space for a lunch room and soda counter.

The structure is proposed to be built of reinforced concrete and steel, and brick, fireproof throughout, with a Virginia limestone front. It is proposed for use by colored boy and girl scouts, collegiate and high school teams, and other athletic and recreational groups.

It is planned to liquidate the loan through revenues derived from dances each evening, amateur sporting matches, concerts and assembly meetings, rental of swimming pool day and night, concessions, etc.

LYNCHBURG, VA.
NEWS

MAY 20 1934

NEGRO PARK SITE

To The Editor of The News:

Sir: Yesterday a delegation of Negroes, with the attorney for the United Cigarette Machine Company, appeared before the council asking that location of the proposed Negro park and playground be located on property of United Cigarette Machine Company in Campbell county, adjoining Fairview Heights, instead of Dearington. It is sincerely hoped such a request be not granted. The Dearington site of the proposed Negro park is within the center of the Negro population of Lynchburg and more accessible for the Negroes than the property in Campbell county adjoining Fairview Heights, a suburb of several thousand factory workers, who own their own homes. No Negroes live in Fairview Heights on account of restrictions against their race, and the location of this property is not at Durmid, where the plant is located, as stated by Mr. Harper, who represents the United Cigarette Machine Company, which wishes to dispose of this property to the city for fifteen thousand dollars. If Mr. Harper is interested in the welfare of a large group of Negroes in Lynchburg he should recommend a more accessible location for the Negro population in general, which is Dearington. The Negroes are divided between Fishing creek and Dearington, and not Fairview Heights which is a new proposition. A good many Negroes favor Dearington, which will make an ideal location and a beautiful park as planned. On account of the topography of Lynchburg there are very few industrial sites available to offer industries which wish to locate in Lynchburg proper, and these are along Fishing creek in south Lynchburg and the factory sites adjoining Fairview Heights along the N. & W. Railway belonging to the United Cigarette Machine Company. There is already one large industry located there, Pocahontas Guano Company. In a few years there will be others, possibly textile, rayon or cotton.

Fairview Heights, which is located on the north side of this property, has all white population and is growing rapidly. These factory employes have bought and built their homes in this suburb which has restrictions for white people only and on south side is Perkins Park, suburb with about seventy homes. This suburb has the same restrictions as Fairview Heights and has grown rapidly in the past ten years. It has been proposed several times to place a street across the machine company's property to make each suburb more accessible because of the churches, schools and stores in Fairview Heights. The citizens in Fairview Heights and Perkins Park have certain rights and should protest this proposed Negro park location.

OBSERVER.

Lynchburg, May 15, 1934.

NORFOLK, VA.
VIRGINIAN PILOT

JUL 30 1934

Not Quite Out of the Woods

On the Chesapeake Bay shore, hard by the Pennsylvania Railroad's Little Creek terminal, the city of Norfolk has opened to the use of its colored population a bare little beach. It consists today of little more than a desolate strand and a roadway—the latter providentially acquired as the result of the bitter depression which allowed the road to be constructed with CWA funds. In time, perhaps, the beach will be provided with the elemental facilities necessary to its use, but during this summer at least there will be the bare strand and little else.

The Negro beach, after many years of travail, is an accomplished fact and actually in use, but litigiously it is not yet quite out of the woods. A suit directed to destroying everything that has been accomplished, by means of a court order directing the refunding to the city of the $10,100 paid for the land, will be reviewed by the State Supreme Court. It turns on technicalities that it would be profitless at this time to review. On the underlying merits of the controversy the Supreme Court has already ruled. The case reached that tribunal several years ago when opponents of the beach project appealed from a decision of the State Corporation Commission holding that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company had the right to sell the property in question, and approving the purpose for which the city acquired it. The Supreme Court failed to find cause for reversal.

The way of appellate courts with technicalities is sometimes more mysterious than their way with underlying equities, but the Virginian-Pilot does not believe that the tribunal which approved the railroad company's sale of the property for Negro beach purposes will lend its approval to a technical attack on a detail of the sale's consummation that was itself made necessary by an opposing maneuver made not by the city but by the project's opponents. The long fight for a bit of communal fair dealing is drawing to a close. One more round may see the end of it.